
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Department of Workforce Services
1385 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 14, 2006
12:00 p.m.

Presiding: Paul Jackson, Chair

Present: Charles Daud, Gregory Diven, Norman Fitzgerald, John Hill,
Commissioner Colleen Johnson, Jon Pierpont, Gordon Swensen

Absent: Tony Gomez

Excused: Commissioner Jim Bradley, Senator Brent Goodfellow, Karen Silver,
Kerry Steadman

Staff: Diane Lovell, Mary Peterson

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

Chairman Paul Jackson opened the meeting at 12:05 pm. Mr. Jackson paid respects on behalf of the committee to Karen Silver with the passing of her father.

Mr. Jackson welcomed Gordon Swensen as a new member of the Executive Committee. Letters have been submitted to Mayor Corroon on behalf of Workforce Services letting them know that on August 24, 2006, Central Region Council submitted the membership appointments of Colleen Fraser-EDCU and Gordon Swensen-State Office of Rehabilitation. Mr. Swensen has agreed to Co-Chair the Training & Development Committee following Linda Fife's resignation.

Two large employers are needed to fill Council membership. Heidi Ballif-VP SL Chamber of Commerce will submit an application. Also, one small vacancy may be available replacing Jill Merritt. More information will be forthcoming on this. If you have any suggestions for membership, please let John Hill, Co-Chair know.

Chairman Jackson shared information regarding the Legislative Strategy from a meeting that he, Jon Pierpont, Diane Lovell, and Mike Richardson attended. Different ways were discussed as possibilities to get in front of the legislators to get their attention on matters Council is concerned with. For example, make it a community sponsored issue where DWS would support local initiatives as opposed to being the driver. This would make it more personal where community leaders can become more engaged.

Mike Richardson is working with the State DWS Office to determine what strategy they would like us to take. It appears it may be a little different than in the past where we don't have a breakfast or lunch but rather engage the community and those Council members that are close to the community. Mike Richardson indicated that a decision

should be made within the next two weeks. The key issues for this year are General Assistance and Child Care.

Greg Diven suggested inviting the legislators to the Council meeting in November or December so those who attend will understand more clearly what the purpose is. This will allow Council to accomplish what typically takes place with the legislative session and then fine tune the targeted legislators and have additional meetings within the communities where additional attention may be needed.

John Hill noted Council members need to be educated on what is needed. Gordon Swensen suggested including a packet of basic talking points to help them feel comfortable. Chairman Jackson indicated that more information would be forthcoming.

2. Regional Director's Remarks

Jon Pierpont, Regional Director shared two items with the Executive Committee as follows:

1. DWS Central Region – A draft copy of the “At a Glance” report was distributed which includes the results achieved in Central Region along with the targeted goal. This easy to read report is broken out by Key Business Processes with the percentages attained compared to the state goal. The four categories highlighted are:
 - Employment Counseling
 - Business Services
 - Eligibility
 - Youth

One highlight shared is that Central Region was able to reduce the number of General Assistance cases from 1456 in July 2005 to 595 in August, 2006. An overall high over the past 3 years on New Applications for Services–Monthly was reported. Mr. Pierpont also noted that Utah is currently ranked #13 in the country in Food Stamp payment.

The goal column is subject to change each year. The intent of the report is to keep the Executive Committee and Central Region Council zeroed in on what DWS is involved in. It was suggested to have a key at the bottom of the handout with a definition of the acronyms used.

2. Central Region is re-looking at the lease at the 158 South 200 West Downtown office. There is currently more space than is needed at this location – between 40% to 50% more space than needed. Closing this space would result in a \$300,000/year savings. Mr. Pierpont will continue to renegotiate the lease. He also noted that DSCM is looking at space available to use. Gordon Swensen noted a need from his department and will look into this location as a possibility.

3. Meeting Management – Proposed Changes

Chairman Jackson referred to the Agenda Management Calendar provided and noted that there would be no Regional Council meeting in October due to the tight agenda at the Council of Council meeting on October 12th. The Executive Committee meetings in October and November will not be held. Regional Council will be held on November 16th and December 14th.

Jon Pierpont is working on a Homeless report and Veterans report to be presented in an upcoming Council meeting. The Training & Development report is scheduled in December and possibly the Diversity Committee at the same time.

Mr. Jackson noted the Executive Committee meeting is comprised of the Chairs and Co-Chairs of each committee. He noted that Diane Lovell will be in contact prior to the meeting to ensure those presenting are prepared or if Executive action needs to take place prior to the Council meeting. With one hour for the Executive Committee meeting it is important to be as efficient as possible.

4. Committee Reports & Regional Plan Updates – Changes Only

The Basic Needs Committee had nothing to report. Norm Fitzgerald noted that he needs to become familiar with new guidelines that have been established.

Greg Diven from the Executive Roundtable reported on the MotorFest scheduled for September 27th and 28th. Despite the obstacles to overcome, the planning is going well and there will be over 2000 youth and many exhibitors at the event. Mr. Diven noted the need for more financial assistance and anyone willing to volunteer would be appreciated. Paul Jackson asked the Executive Committee to consider if they would be willing to support a contribution from the Central Region Council for the MotorFest event.

At the recent Automotive Curriculum Meeting it was noted that the curriculum has been developed and is ready to incorporate into the schools. Mr. Diven noted the excellent camaraderie that has taken place with this group and how well they have worked together. Paul Jackson voiced concern that each school district now has the choice to accept or reject. Greg Diven noted the core curriculum will be used with the option of using their own text books. This will help in developing career paths.

Greg Diven also noted that the orientation meeting for this curriculum was to be held on September 26th but have decided to push back as a post MotorFest meeting as Parent Teacher Conferences will be taking place at the same time. Either October 3rd or October 18th will be the date for the official signing of the curriculum and articulation agreement. Mr. Diven noted the goal is to have media at this event and it was suggested to invite legislators. The curriculum may be implemented this year.

In addition, this meeting will provide the opportunity to raise next issues and concerns. It would be nice to see the industry increase the starting wage rate. Mr. Diven will plug this at the next Roundtable Meeting.

The Construction Industry Roundtable will be held on November 1, 2006. Greg Diven spoke with Ken Shultson, President of ABC (Association of Builder & Contractors) who said he would be thrilled to be involved.

Greg Diven reported that Melisa Stark is looking at the possibility of having a Manufacturing career day and wants to get the Manufacturing Roundtable involved. A meeting will be held on September 28th to continue making plans. No date for the Roundtable has been set as this time.

John Hill motioned for \$300.00 to be donated from the Central Region Council for the MotorFest activity on September 27th and 28th. Greg Diven seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”. The motion passed.

5. September 28th Council Meeting – Agenda Setting

The Central Region Council meeting is set for September 28, 2006 and will be held at the SLCC Miller Campus located at 9750 South 300 West, Karen Gail Miller Conference Center in the Deer Creek/Quail Creek Rooms.

6. Old Business

Paul Jackson reported on the ongoing issue of getting UTA to have a bus stop at 5600 West location requires a petition to support this issue. The SLTATC has circulated a petition to obtain signatures in support of this issue. A copy of this petition was also circulated at today's meeting.

7. New Business

There was no new business to report.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Announcements

Chairman Jackson announced the Department of Workforce Services partnered with SLTATC and SLCC to bring industries together to discuss what skills the industry is looking for to get workers into the workplace. Through this discussion came the core basic readiness skills or DACUM (Developing a Curriculum). On October 5, 2006 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm the Academic Community is asking for representatives of industry to come back and spend the time to validate the direction of this curriculum. If you are interested or know industries that should be there, please contact Diane Lovell ASAP.

The Council of Council will be held on October 12, 2006 at the University Park Hotel.

John Hill motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 pm.